TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

JAN 1 3 2003

Patent Application Attorney Docket No: 687-401

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Neisz et al.

Serial No.: Filed:

09/939,098

For:

August 24, 2001 Coated Sling Material Group Art Unit: 3761

Examiner: Unknown

7.09

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents,

Washington, DC 20231 on:

January 8, 2002

Date

Signature – Linda K. Newton

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.97 and 1.98, enclosed for consideration by the Examiner during examination of the above identified application are copies of the following documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449.

Applicants assert that nothing herein is intended to be construed as an admission as to whether a document constitutes prior art against the present application. Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.131, 1.132 or otherwise, to establish that the document(s) are not "prior art". Applicants have provided these documents to comply with their duty under 37 C.F.R. 1.56.

French Pat. No. 2,737,106 appears to discuss a fabric used in a surgical procedure.

German Pat. No. 1, 961 33 17 appears to disclose a mesh (see fig. 1), and a braided material (fig 3).

The abstract of PCT WO 98/58598 is in English.

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An informal, uncertified translation of PCT WO 02/28312 is enclosed.

This information disclosure statement is being filed prior to a first action on the merits. Thus, no fee is believed due for this submission. If this is in error, please charge the fee for the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement to Deposit Account No. 501921.

In view of the foregoing, consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey J. Hohenshell

Registration Number 34,109

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Date: January 8, 2003

Enclosures